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CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

S. B. REGISTRY

File No. **B. D. 949369**

S.1, Special Branch

Date **21/10/39**
Station **89**

REPORT

Date **October 26, 1939.**

Subject **H. E. WOETTEL, German.**

Made by **D. S. Fitts.**

Forwarded by **J. C. Fitts.**

In accordance with the instructions of the Commissioner of Police, the German Consul-General, Mr. A. FISCHER, was interviewed at 10 a.m. (October 21, 1939) in respect of a claim laid by a German national.

Subsequent enquiries coupled with the conversation that passed at the interview have revealed the following :-

The German in question, Mr. H. E. WOETTEL, residing at 429 Grosvenor Gardens, was recently proposed by Dr. F. REISS for temporary membership in the Hui Country Club, 580 Hungjao Road. Now this Club, which is international in aspect, has suffered considerably during the past two years since the occupation by the Japanese of the Western area in which the Club premises are situated and it was in an effort to secure further support for the Club that temporary members, not paying the subscription fee, were permitted to join.

Two members of the General Committee, Mr. R. A. KAHLEN, Netherlander and Mr. R. N. SWANN, British, constituted the "approval" Committee, and after due consideration, Mr. WOETTEL was approved by the former as a temporary member.

A few days ago, another German member of the Club named Reyfus (?) and his wife remarked to the Chinese Resident Secretary that neither Mr. WOETTEL nor Mrs. WOETTEL enjoyed spotless reputations

The Robertson

D.C. (Sp. Br.)

P.A.
Letter to
G. C. G.
stating that there
is nothing disclosed
by investigations on
record to indicate
Mr. Woetzel is,
as has been suggested
in other than business.



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and were far from desirable people. Still later, another member informed the Resident Secretary that Mr. WOETZEL was under the suspicion of the local American authorities as a narcotic dealer and that Mrs. WOETZEL's arrest by the Municipal Police was imminent, a warrant having been issued. The offence was not specified.

As a result of these allegations, Mr. WOETZEL was asked to resign, which he did.

This information has been secured from sources closely connected with the Husi Club and may be regarded as accurate.

There is no question of the Police having reported him as being mixed up in drug-trafficking, a fact which Mr. FISCHER readily admits.

Mr. WOETZEL, in his complaint to the German authorities, stated he had nothing to hide, but felt that perhaps the Police could ascertain whence these rumours emanated. Indeed Mr. WOETZEL makes no allegation that the Police reported him.

In view of these circumstances, therefore, Mr. WOETZEL expressed a desire that the German Consulate-General be officially acquainted with the facts of the affair and with the object of proving that he was a bona-fide and respectable German citizen, requested that his antecedents be checked.

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Mr. WOLFE, after outlining these details, then asked whether it would be possible for the Police to communicate with him advising him whether anything was known or not to Mr. WOLFE's detriment.

Mr. WOLFE, whose wife is a rather highly-strung and very ambitious Jewess, is not well received in the German community and on the face of things it would seem that he desires "official approval" from the German authorities to re-establish his character.

He was in the past, due to his Chinese trading connections, been the subject of official investigation by both the Special Branch and the Narcotic Section, but in neither instance has anything come to light that has proved detrimental to his character. The Narcotic Section, at the time of the Brandstaetter Case, naturally checked Brandstaetter's associates, but though Mr. WOLFE's name was mentioned as such, nothing resulted from the ensuing investigation.

Mr. WOLFE by profession is a chemist and is at present very well off financially. The possibility of his having business enemies cannot be excluded, but the impression is gained from enquiries made that although he has been barred from the Hui Club, he is utilizing this point as an excuse to curry favour in the eyes of the local German community and thus establish himself as a person of some importance.

D. C. Pines

D. S.

D. C. (Special Branch).

DS PITTS

German C. G

10am 21/10

Case German National^x
put up for Wu Hsi Club
but told to take his name
down. Asked why, he was
told our Police had
reported him as an
narcotic man. He wants
to be fully investigated &
the whole circumstances also

OVER

D.C. (S/B.)

See before
deputy-L



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October 27,

39.

German Consul General,

SHANGHAI.

Sir,

Mr. K.E. Woetzel.

I have the honour to inform you that there is nothing disclosed by investigations of Police records to indicate that Mr. K.E. Woetzel, is or has been, engaged in other than legitimate business.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. K. M. Bourne.

Commissioner of Police.

SCW/.

